

As an employee of the Library of Congress from 1989-2011 I was there when the Internet began and the Web was conceived. My office was responsible for developing networking standards and I began the first public Internet discussion list at the Library of Congress. I am writing this statement to express my profound support for upholding net neutrality laws. The Internet has positively improved so many lives, opening up new methods of communications new vehicles for acquiring knowledge-- but the dangers that it can do are profound given the control it has over people's lives. It is important that it remain an independent entity, not tied to any business or attempt to make money. I and many others in my field (information science, librarianship, data providers) argue for an open platform for communication that is not guided by self- or commercial interest.

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